

## ***Staying Connected***

DECEMBER 2004

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**TO RECEIVE THE "STAYING  
CONNECTED" NEWSLETTER  
ELECTRONICALLY:**

E-mail [imailsrv@dot.listserv.wi.gov](mailto:imailsrv@dot.listserv.wi.gov),  
leave the "subject" line blank,  
type *subscribe connections2030*  
*your name* in the message body,  
and eliminate any signatures  
or other text.

## ***Welcome to Staying Connected!***

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is developing a statewide long-range transportation policy plan, Connections 2030. Staying Connected is the newsletter for Connections 2030. It will be used as a means to inform you of major plan milestones (see timeline on page 3), opportunities to attend public meetings, and what WisDOT heard at the public meetings.

Connections 2030 will address all modes of transportation —highways, local roads and streets, transit, waterways, airports, rail, bicycle and pedestrian. The plan will serve as an aid to decision-makers in answering transportation-related questions.

Connections 2030 will include policy recommendations for all transportation modes and for key issues such as land use and economic development. The plan will also identify major transportation corridors around the state.

For Connections 2030 to be successful, WisDOT needs your help! Your involvement and input into the planning process will help ensure Connections 2030 meets the needs of Wisconsin residents. Public involvement opportunities will be available throughout the planning process. WisDOT encourages you to become involved! ♪

## ***WisDOT meets with stakeholders***

During the summer and fall of 2004, WisDOT staff met with statewide transportation stakeholder organizations and large municipalities. The meetings served two purposes:

- 1) to inform stakeholders about the long-range transportation plan process, and
- 2) to allow stakeholders to identify transportation-related issues facing Wisconsin. In addition, stakeholders were provided

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STAYING CONNECTED IS WISDOT'S NEWSLETTER FOR CONNECTIONS 2030,  
THE STATEWIDE LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

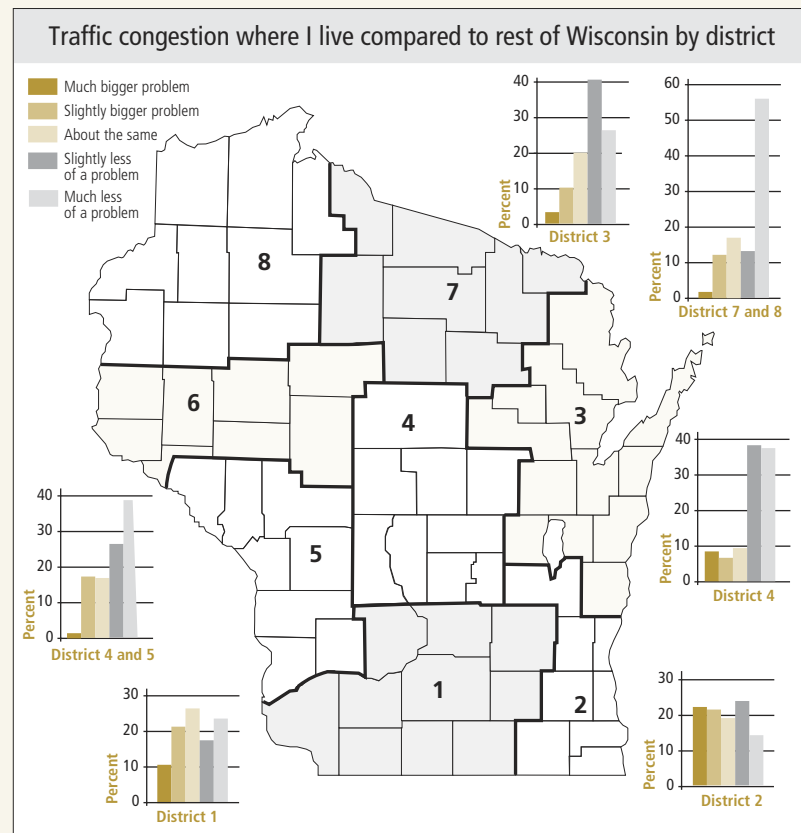
# Statewide Telephone Survey Results

In Spring 2004, WisDOT contracted with Real World Research, LLC to conduct a statewide telephone survey. The survey's goal was to help WisDOT planners prioritize transportation issues.

During the months of April and May, researchers surveyed 1,100 Wisconsin residents to ask them how they felt about transportation in Wisconsin. The survey was designed so that the results are representative of Wisconsin residents. In addition, the survey ensured people of color and of all age groups were adequately represented. The survey results have a  $\pm 3\%$  confidence interval.

The survey addressed a variety of topic areas including Wisconsin's transportation system, quality of life, congestion, and safety.

Based on survey responses, nearly 90% of respondents were very or somewhat satisfied with the state's overall transportation system. Respondents identified



road maintenance, traffic and congestion, and transportation alternatives as the most important transportation issues facing the state.

When identifying goals that were important to maintaining their quality of life, almost 80% of respondents stated having well-maintained roads and bridges as a key goal. Other important goals included having safe sidewalks and pedestrian crossings, improving highway safety, and having safe bicycle and pedestrian routes to school.

While many respondents identified traffic and congestion as a major transportation issue in the state, many did not perceive congestion in

their area to be worse than other areas of the state. In addition, many respondents felt that traffic congestion was less of a problem in Wisconsin than other states.

Speed and alcohol were identified as the two biggest threats to safety on roads and highways. When asked what WisDOT can do to help improve safety, many suggested increased police patrols and ticketing. Others suggested laws against cell phone use while driving or tough penalties for speeding or drinking and driving.

*Copies of an executive summary and complete report can be downloaded at [www.wiconnections2030.gov](http://www.wiconnections2030.gov). For questions about the report or to request a printed copy of the report, call (608) 264-7757 or e-mail [connections2030@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:connections2030@dot.state.wi.us).*



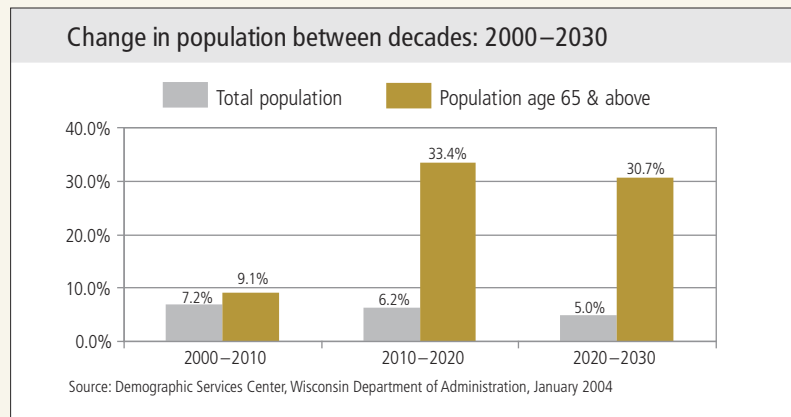
WWW.WICONNECTIONS2030.GOV

## Connections 2030 Web Site

WisDOT has created a Web site dedicated to Connections 2030. The Web address is *www.wiconnections2030.gov*. The site is designed to provide information on the status of the planning process, provide opportunities for public involvement, and provide a means for citizens to ask a question or submit a comment or concern. In addition, WisDOT will periodically post a question and allow interested persons to submit responses. WisDOT will review them and share some of the responses to allow individuals to read different or shared viewpoints. WisDOT encourages you to check the Web site regularly.

## Wisconsin's Changing Population

Based on 2000 Census data, over 5.3 million persons live in Wisconsin. By the year 2030, the state's total population is expected to be 6.4 million, an increase of almost 20%. While the state's total population will gradually increase over the years, the number of persons age 65 and older is expected to increase more significantly. By 2030, this age group will grow over 90%, from 703,000 in 2000 to over 1.3 million in 2030. These population increases will impact Wisconsin's transportation system. One goal of Connections 2030 is to identify the impacts a growing population will have on the transportation system and how to better prepare the state for this future trend.



## Connections 2030 Timeline

The Connections 2030 planning process is scheduled for completion by Spring 2006. Each step of the planning process will provide opportunities to become involved. Examples of these opportunities include surveys, public meetings, focus groups, and newsletters. In addition, interested individuals are encouraged to submit any questions, comments or concerns at any time by either writing, e-mailing, or calling Connections 2030. Our contact information is listed on page 1.



## Connections 2030 Listserv

WisDOT staff created a listserv to electronically distribute information related to Connections 2030, including the newsletter. The goal is to provide information to transportation stakeholders in a timely fashion, while also saving money through reduced printing and mailing costs. Anyone can join the listserv by following these simple steps:

- » Send an e-mail to *imailsrv@dot.listserv.wi.gov*
- » Leave the subject line blank
- » Type *subscribe connections2030 your name* in the message body 📧

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a copy of the telephone survey to help further quantify results.

WisDOT met with over 40 groups and meeting minutes are available on the Connections 2030 Web site. A summary report is being prepared. 📧



## Connections 2030

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